



June 27, 2014

This week's edition includes important information I want to share with you:

- **Provider Training Opportunity:** Please see the attached informational/training session invitation from the Bureau of TennCare for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) providers on the new Department of Labor (DoL) and HCBS Setting rules. It includes a schedule of all sessions with date, time and locations as well as registration information. Space for attendees is limited, so the Bureau of TennCare requests you limit the number of staff from your organization to three per meeting.
- **Supporting Families Community of Practice:** DIDD is thrilled for the opportunity to be involved in the Supporting Families Community of Practice in partnership with the Tennessee Council on Developmental Disabilities (TNCDD). Being a part of a learning community with five other states to learn about best practices that support families of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities is of critical importance to the department's future. DIDD is working on future planning for the service delivery system and wishes to include the things that people with disabilities and their families need to obtain and maintain a good quality of life. This Community of Practice will help guide DIDD and the Council through the next five years in strengthening the Tennessee interagency collaboration for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, as well as provide a platform for learning from five other states about their experiences. To view the June copy of the Supporting Families newsletter, click [here](#). You can also [sign up here to receive these monthly updates](#) on the Supporting Families Community of Practice project in Tennessee or download the latest edition of TNCDD's *Breaking Ground* magazine available [here](#).
- **Employment First Community of Practice Webinar:** Participants are still needed for a July 14 session with ODEP Subject Matter Expert Susan Harrell from 1:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. CST. Susan will conduct a presentation regarding Benefits Planning and discuss where to begin and when to confer with Certified Work Incentive Counselors. In addition, Susan will provide specific scenarios that can be discussed in detail with participants. Along with her presentation, Susan will be available to answer questions pertaining to benefits and employment. To RSVP and for webinar connection details, please contact Betty Chester at Betty.Chester@tn.gov. Please note registration is limited to 25 participants and on a first-come, first-serve basis.
- **Licensure Update:** This week is a reminder for those providing the waiver service "personal assistance" which is licensed as "personal support services." We first covered this in November 2013, but it bears repeating. Per Tennessee Code Annotated (TCA), there are two types of "personal support services." Per TCA 33-2-403 (a) ".....The Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services shall also license personal support services for the aged as well as persons with mental illness." It further states, "....personal support services for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities shall be licensed by the Department of Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities." This means any entity who is licensed by DIDD to provide

personal assistance to waiver participants that also provides personal support to CHOICES participants, must have a license for that service from the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services. Staff from your Regional DIDD Licensure Office can provide further clarification upon request. Contact information for your Regional DIDD Licensure office can be found on the DIDD website [here](#).

- **Keep Greene Beautiful:** It is tradition during May for Greene Valley to participate in the annual Great American Clean-up via the Greene County Partnership's Keep Greene Beautiful program. It is also the perfect time for Greene Valley to hold its annual Best-All-Around contest. As usual, people worked very hard to enhance Greene Valley's curb appeal. A lot of mowing, raking, weed pulling, planting perennials, shrub and tree trimming and power washing occurred in the hopes of winning the coveted GVDC Keep Greene Beautiful – Best-All-Around Award! Judges from the local community had great difficulty in selecting a winner, but ultimately chose Newel Cottage.



A very proud group of individuals accepted a congratulatory plaque and cash award, used to purchase an attractive bird bath for their feathered friends. Greene Valley collects phone books throughout the year in hopes of winning the local phone book recycling contest; the prize money is used to fund the Best-All-Around Award. Data collected during the clean-up and beautification effort is forwarded to the Greene County Partnership to include with the county data and then sent to the state's Keep Tennessee Beautiful office.

- **An Ounce of Prevention:** This week's topic is Residential Billing. At times, individuals are away overnight from their waiver supported residence, most commonly due to weekend visits with family. Billing for a unit of residential support when the individual is not in the residence should not occur. Billing applicability is based on a "head in the bed" rule, specifically at 12:01 AM (midnight). Staff from your Regional DIDD Billing Coordinator's Office can provide further clarification upon request.

Ex. 1

Fri 1st	Sat 2nd	Sun 3rd	Mon 4th
Person goes home with family at 4:00 PM	Person returns to waiver residence at 6:00 PM	Person remains in waiver residence	Person remains in waiver residence
Person's head in waiver bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in family bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in waiver bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in waiver bed at 12:01 AM
Bill 1 unit	Do Not Bill	Bill 1 unit	Bill 1 unit

Ex. 2

Fri 1st	Sat 2nd	Sun 3rd	Mon 4th
Person goes home with family at 4:00 PM	Person remains with family	Person returns to waiver residence at 6:00 PM	Person remains in waiver residence
Person's head in waiver bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in family bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in family bed at 12:01 AM	Person's head in waiver bed at 12:01 AM
Bill 1 unit	Do Not Bill	Do Not Bill	Bill 1 unit

- **Customized Employment (CE) and *Discovery* Training:** On June 25-26, Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) Subject Matter Expert Michael Callahan conducted the second session of training at One Cannon Way in Nashville. The training was comprised of staff from Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) along with Community Rehabilitation providers that provide employment services. The purpose of partnering with VR was to help participants from both departments to establish rapport with each other as they work towards a common goal of community integrated employment. If your agency is interested in learning about CE and *Discovery*, please contact State Director of Employment and Day Services, Amy Gonzalez, at Amy.Gonzalez@tn.gov.
- **Fire Safety:** Warmer weather usually means fun in the sun and cookouts! With the 4th of July quickly approaching, we felt grilling safety tips were in order. If possible, choose a cement surface for grilling that is away from grass, shrubs, and trees. Please be mindful to use a fireproof mat under the grill to prevent charred patios. Grills should be placed well away from the home and deck railings to avoid melting, charring, or worse. See the attached tip sheet from the National Fire Protection Association for more advice.

Also, when cooking indoors, remember not to cover stovetop drip pans in aluminum foil and not to line the oven with foil. Not only is it a fire hazard but it can give off toxic fumes. The more often you clean the drip pans and the stove, the easier it will be to clean. For your convenience, make scheduled cleanings part of your routine.

Finally, please know that it is a requirement, per Life Safety Code, that there be a smoke detector in each bedroom of the home, one in each hallway, and at least one on every level of the home. Violations are considered a health and safety issue and the home will not pass inspection if not in compliance with these requirements.

Be safe and have a great weekend!

~Debbie